GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1265
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2016
Displaced Tribals
Swami Maharaj Dr. Sakshi

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tribals displaced from their traditional habitats due to various reasons during each of the last three years and the current year in the country, State/ UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the preventive steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for proper rehabilitation of such displaced tribals, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR)

(a) In so far as land related issues are concerned, the Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources (DoLR), is the nodal Ministry at the Centre, who plays a monitoring role in the field of land reforms. Land and its management fall under the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of states as provided under the Constitution of India (Seventh Schedule − List ii (State List) − Entry No. (18). Therefore, State wise details are not maintained centrally. Collecting data regarding land acquisition and displacement covering ST families also is under the purview of DoLR. A National Level Monitoring Committee has been constituted in the DoLR for this purpose.

(b)& (c) As safeguards, The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (LARR Act, 2013 in short) has special provisions for scheduled tribes. As per the Act, as far as possible, no land is to be acquired in the scheduled area except as last resort. In case acquisition or alienation of any land in the Scheduled Areas, the prior consent of Gram Sabha or the Panchayat or the Autonomous District Councils, at the appropriate level in the Scheduled Area in the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution, as the case may be, are required to be obtained, in all cases of land acquisition in such areas, including acquisition in case of urgency. The Act also lays down procedure and manner of rehabilitation and resettlement.

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights Act, 2006 in section 4 (5) states that save as otherwise provided, no member of a forest dwelling Scheduled Tribe or Other Traditional Forest Dweller shall be evicted or removed from the Forest Land under his occupation till the recognition and verification procedure is complete.

The Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, also provides that the Gram Sabha or the Panchayats at the appropriate level shall be consulted before making the acquisition of land in the Scheduled Areas or development projects and before resettling or rehabilitating persons affected by such projects in the Scheduled Areas; the actual planning and implementation of the projects in the Scheduled Areas shall be coordinated at the State Level;

Constitutional provisions under Schedule − V also provide for safeguards against displacement of tribal population because of land acquisitions etc. the Governor of the State which has scheduled Areas is empowered to prohibit or restrict transfer of land from tribals and regulate the allotment of land to members of the Scheduled Tribes in such cases.

Land being a State subject, the various provisions of rehabilitation and resettlement as per the LARR Act, 2013 are implemented by the concerned State Governments. Section 16 of the Act mandates the Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement to conduct survey and undertake a census of the affected families and to prepare rehabilitation and resettlement scheme which shall include particulars of the rehabilitation and resettlement entitlements of each land owner and landless whose livelihoods are primarily dependent on the lands being acquired and where resettlement of affected families is involved. Further, Chapter V of the LARR Act, 2013 deals with Rehabilitation and Resettlement Award for affected families by the Collector and provision of infrastructural amenities in resettlement area. Sections 41 and 42 of the LARR Act, 2013 contains special provisions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes including reservation and other benefits. The Second Schedule to the LARR Act, 2013 highlights the various elements of Rehabilitation and Resettlement entitlements for all the affected families (both land owners and the families whose livelihood is primarily dependent on land acquired). These elements include provision of housing units in case of displacement, land for land, offer for developed land, choice of annuity or employment, subsistence grant for displaced families for a period of one year, transportation cost for displaced families, cattle shed/petty shops cost, one-time grant to artisan and small traders, fishing rights, one-time Resettlement Allowance, and Stamp Duty and Registration Fee.

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